

Remarks

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Belaschk et al. Applicants have amended claim 1 to call for all of the first bristles to extend from the first bristle support in a perpendicular direction from the first bristle support. Support for this amendment is found in figures 13 and 14, and the written description thereof. In figures 1 and 11, cited by the Examiner, neither of the bristle supports have all of their bristles extending in a perpendicular direction from the bristle support. As such, Belaschk does not anticipate amended claim 1 or claims 2 and 4 which depend from claim 1. Claims 3 and 5 have been cancelled.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Ruse. Applicants note that claim 5 was not rejected in view of Ruse. Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the features of cancelled claim 5. Support for this amendment is found in figures 13 and 14, and the written description thereof. That is, claim 1 was amended to indicate that at least some of the second bristles are angled away from at least some of the first bristles. As recognized by the Examiner in the office action mailed 5/6/04, Ruse makes no such disclosure. Accordingly, Ruse does not anticipate amended claim 1 or claims 2 and 4 which depend from claim 1.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 07-1350.

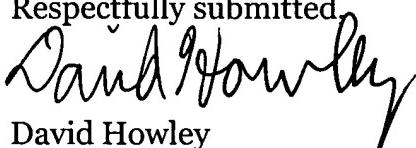
- a. Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR §1.16.
- b. Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR §1.17.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to make any additional copies of this sheet needed to accomplish the purposes provided for herein and to charge any fee for such copies to Deposit Account No. 07-1350. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Applicants believe the present claims are now in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly requested.

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